RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 7th March, 2001/16 Phalguna, 1922 (Saka)

The house met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Ceasefire in North-East

†*161. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any positive results have been brought by unilateral ceasefire in Jammu and Kashmir and unconditional ceasefire in Nagaland;

(b) if so, why such type of unilateral and unconditional ceasefire is not announced in Assam and other affected States of North-Eastern Region to bring peace in these States; and

(c) whether considering all the factors Government would take such type of steps in these States soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir, the Unilateral Peace initiative in J&K and ceasefire with NSCN(I/ M) backed up by ground rules in Nagaland have led to positive results.

(b) and (c) The Government of India and the Government of Assam have declared suspension of operations against Bodo Liberation Tiger. This is backed up by agreed ground rules. The Government of Manipur has announced a unilateral ceasefire with all militant groups in the State, for a period of one month.

No omnibus policy measures can be drawn up for the entire North-East, as the situation differs from State to State. However the situation is kept under close watch by the Government of India.

Effect of Ceasefire on militant operations in J&K

†*165. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government think that the ceasefire has considerably reduced the militant operations in Kashmir;

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†Starred Question Nos 161 and 165 were taken together.